

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
JOHN E. MOSS

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 1998

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a former member of this body, my mentor and predecessor in this House, The Honorable John E. Moss. As Congressman Moss is memorialized today in the city which he represented so well, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in saluting his remarkable career in public service.

Throughout the twenty-six years he represented the Sacramento area in this House, he served with distinction as an effective and compassionate champion for his constituents. As a skillful legislator, he played a key role in shaping and passing some of this century's great legislative achievements, all the while keeping the interests of his district at the forefront of his concerns.

Born in the state of Utah in 1915, John Moss' family moved to Sacramento, California in 1923. There, he went to school and married Jean Kueny in 1935. The couple would have two daughters. After serving in the Second World War, Congressman Moss was a businessman, but he soon heard the call to serve in the public sector and he won a seat in the California State Assembly in 1948.

Just four years thereafter, at the age of thirty-three, John Emerson Moss was elected to the House of Representatives, a position he would fulfill admirably for the next twenty-six years. One of Congressman Moss' first orders of business was to persuade then-President Harry S. Truman to approve the construction of a dam along the American River at the town of Folsom, just east of Sacramento. In a sign of his political prowess, Congressman Moss was able to successfully lobby the White House to support this important project.

His other early achievements included winning federal support for the Sacramento Airport and the surrounding military bases. John Moss steadfastly represented and served as an advocate for a great cross-section of Californians living in Sacramento, regardless of party affiliation or political persuasion. Yet his commitment to the needs of his district never overwhelmed his core devotion to civil and human rights, and to truth in government.

From 1955 until 1966, John Moss devoted much of his time in this House to winning passage of the Freedom of Information Act. His crusade to create and enact a law which would allow for a more open, understanding, and responsible government was perhaps his greatest achievement in Congress and would earn him the title of "Father of the Freedom of Information Act."

By the early 1970s, he had risen to the leadership of the House, serving as high as deputy majority whip under both Congressmen Carl Albert and Hale Boggs. At this same time, as the Watergate saga began to unfold and the U.S. involvement in Vietnam wound down, John Moss served as one of the great consciences of the House, always calling for greater government accountability and responsiveness to the concerns of the people.

As his career concluded in 1979, Congressman Moss could look back and see a great string of legislative and political achievements:

The 1970 Federal Clean Air Act, the creation of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and reform of the nation's anti-monopoly laws, to name but a few.

Mr. Speaker, since Congressman Moss' passing, tributes have come forth from President Bill Clinton, former President and Mrs. Jimmy Carter, and countless other prominent Americans and Sacramentans. His passion and drive in defending the First Amendment, advocating consumer and environmental protection, and looking after the needs of his Sacramento constituency has cemented his legacy as one of this century's great legislative leaders. On a personal note, as my friend and mentor is eulogized today, I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in honoring this great and caring husband, father, and legislator.

RECOGNIZING THE CHANNAHON
PARK DISTRICT

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 1998

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize the Channahon Park District in Channahon, Illinois for winning the 1997 National Gold Medal Award. This award acknowledges excellence in parks and recreation administration for agencies serving populations of less than 20,000.

What makes this award special Mr. Speaker, is the fact that the judges for the National Gold Medal Award are park officials from throughout the nation who consider agency programs, quality of facilities, future planning and community involvement in selecting award winners. So as you can see Mr. Speaker, this is an award that is not only judged by peers in the field, but, by some of the most respected park administrators from around the country.

The Channahon Park District has had a proud history of community service over the last 25 years. Growing out of a volunteer effort of local residents, the Channahon Park District and its staff are a national model for excellence in recreation, environment, and community programs.

The residents of Channahon and the entire Eleventh Congressional District have always enjoyed the fine programs and facilities maintained by Channahon Park District's award winning team. From board members and staff, right down to part time volunteers, the Channahon Park District team understands the meaning of community, and extends its programs to every sector of the local population.

Mr. Speaker, I salute the hard work of the men and women of the Channahon Park District, and I know I speak for all of the residents of the Village of Channahon when I say congratulations on winning this award and job well done.

TRIBUTE TO STEVE SOUTH

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 1998

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Steve South, the outgoing President of the National City Chamber of Commerce in National City, California, located in my Congressional District. Mr. South, the Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of EDCO Disposal Corporation, a waste collection and recycling company, served as President of the National City Chamber Board of Directors during 1997.

During that year, his leadership led to many successful accomplishments and many "firsts" for the Chamber. The first New Member Orientations were established, and a new "Business Forum" section of the Chamber newsletter was implemented. His leadership also spearheaded new levels of membership in the Chamber. Corporate, student and friendship levels were established to broaden the scope of the Chamber's ability to recruit new members.

Also for the first time in Chamber history, an ad hoc Strategic Planning Committee was established to begin developing a vision for the Chamber of Commerce. The goals of this committee are to update the Chamber's mission and to plan the direction of the Chamber and the economic development of National City into the 21st Century.

Mr. South initiated a student and parent recognition program with the National School District. A campaign was also established to promote the positive assets of National City by developing a promotional media kit, "Good Attributes in National City: Community, People, Business and Schools." Mr. South also supported the building of coalitions with other community groups and initiated the Chamber's support of the National City Collaborative and the National City Boys and Girls Club. His commitment to a safer National City was demonstrated by his support of the establishment of the Senior Volunteer Patrol, a partnership between the City of National City and the Chamber of Commerce.

In these and many other ways, Steve South has worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life for the residents of his city. His dedication is to be admired, and I am pleased to recognize his contributions to the entire community of National City with these remarks in the U.S. House of Representatives.

COMMENDING THE AMERICAN
HEART ASSOCIATION

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 1998

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, this year we will not only commemorate the month of February as American Heart Month, but we will also celebrate the 50th anniversary of the American Heart Association as a national voluntary health agency.

Every 34 seconds, someone in our country dies of cardiovascular disease or stroke. Cardiovascular disease, the leading killer of Americans, claims as many lives as all other